

Meaning swift and valued runner, the *Kukini* in ancient times took news from one Hawaiian leader to another.

# HICKAM *Kukini*

Serving the Air Force Hawaii Community

**HOT TOPIC**

***Hickam Tax Center is open, saving military members money***

*Details on Page 3.*

Vol. 11, No. 12

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Hickam AFB, Hawaii

## tops blue

### set to show *Hickam talent*

By Amn Ryan Simpson  
Staff Writer

Three Team Hickam Airmen will travel the world singing to audiences abroad as part of the Tops In Blue.

Female vocalists Staff Sgt. Megan King, 17th Operational Weather Squadron, Airman First Class Jennifer Richardson, 15th Security Forces Squadron and male vocalist Airman Benjamin Taylor, 15th Civil Engineer Squadron will join other top Air Force singers and instrumentalists during the 2004 Tops In Blue tour.

As Tops In Blue members they are now part of the Air Force's premier entertainment showcase for the entire family. With the main focus to bring the best in music, dance and comedy all performed by men and women in blue who perform 90 minutes of non-stop live entertainment, according to the Tops In Blue fact sheet.

During each annual tour, Tops In Blue entertains more than 250,000 military personnel and their families, presenting an average of 120 performances at 100 locations worldwide. The showcase is presented throughout the continental United States, Canada, Europe, Central America, Alaska and the Pacific.

Tops In Blue is scheduled to make their stop at Hickam December 14. For more information on Tops in Blue go to <http://www.afsv.af.mil/TIB>.



Photo by Mike Dey

### Through the wire

Staff Sergeant Christopher Kuhn, 56th Air Communication Squadron double checks the connections of the Light-weight Multi-band Satellite Terminal in order to keep the communications with the outside world possible during the 56 ACOMS Exercise Healthy Thunder Readiness Training held at Barbers Point Coast Guard Station on March 23rd.

# Team Hickam prepares for ORE

By Amn. Ryan Simpson  
Staff Writer

Team Hickam is preparing for an Operational Exercise set to begin Monday and last until April 2.

The function of an ORE is to test the operational readiness of the wing to perform its contingency tasking and responsibilities.

"It allows the 15th Airlift Wing units to train and prepare themselves for all wartime requirements to include: deployment, employment, reception, non-combatant evacuation operations and redeployment," said Maj. Mark Ostrov, 15th AW inspector general.

According to 15th IG staff, the ORE will test deployment by having people processed through the mobility machine.

"They will also have the opportunity to spend the night at base 'X' and take part in field training developed by 1st Lt. Andrew Hoisington from Civil Engineer Readiness covering Ability To Survive and Operate, self aid and buddy care, explosive ordinance disposal, base defense training and various other field events," said Major Ostrov. "That evening they will put the training to use when opposing forces attack their location."

Reception will be tested as the Air Force sends other units here to backfill, help support,

and simulate the enroute requirements.

Non-combatants will arrive from a combat zone and require care and processing until they are moved to a final location.

ATSO and the base's security and awareness will also be put to the test throughout the week.

"Hickam was rated as satisfactory during the last ORE," said Major Ostrov. "This prior exercise tested the Phase I or initial response and was kept to a low stress level to provide the units the opportunity to train. This ORE will be much more robust."

"Be prepared for anything," said Major Ostrov. "Play every scenario to the fullest, we're only here to help."





# Airman with a capital 'A'

By Gen. John Jumper  
Air Force chief of staff

I am an Airman.  
Note that's with a capital "A." It's just one letter at the beginning of the word, but it signifies a great deal.

The reason it is capitalized is simple: Airmen in the United States Air Force are the heart and soul of our unique fighting force, and should be identified by a proper noun.

As young children, when we began to read, we learned a capital letter at the front of a word signified something special or important - like our own name, our hometown and our country. And this was reinforced



something about my guidance to capitalize the word "Airman."

through our education and professional life.

When we see a capital letter, our minds automatically emphasize that word, and we bestow an increased importance on that person, place or thing.

It is time to formally add our profession to that list of important and special nouns.

You may have seen or heard

It is appropriate to do so, in recognition of our rich history, and to emphasize our unparalleled role in the defense of America.

Our Air Force is the finest air and space force in the world because of the generations of professional Airmen that have devoted their lives to dominating the skies.

Capitalizing the word "Airman" recognizes their historic achievements and signifies our unique contributions to fighting and winning America's wars. It shows we've earned the respect a proper name imparts.

For 38 years of my life, I've been proud to wear the uniform of the United States Air Force. And, whether you've worn it as long as I have or just recently joined our team, I know we all feel the same sense of pride.

Regardless of the uniform we wear, the specialty we hold, the badge over our pocket, and whether we are active duty, Guard, Reserve or civilian, first and foremost, we are Airmen.

We are one Air Force and we are Airmen.

## Action Lines



Col. Ray Torres  
15th Airlift Wing commander

The purpose of the Action Line is in its name - it's your direct link to me so we can work as a team to make Hickam a better community. It also allows you to recognize individuals who go "above and beyond" in their duties - and we all know there are plenty of those folks here. All members of Team Hickam are welcome to use the Action Line, however, I urge you to give the normal chain of command the first crack at resolving problems or issues. It's only fair to give our commanders and managers the first opportunity to work issues under their responsibility. If you have done this and are still not satisfied, give my commander's Action Line a call. If you want me to get back to you, leave your name and number, state your issue, tell me who you have talked to and why you were not satisfied with their response. I'll work your issue and respond verbally or in writing. The Action Line number is 449-2996. Messages may also be sent by e-mail to [15aw.pal@hickam.af.mil](mailto:15aw.pal@hickam.af.mil).

## READY provides not so force(d) protection

By Tech. Sgt. Mark Munsey  
Kukini Editor

In the weeks since the 'no kidding' 100 percent ID checks became standard, an early-morning guessing game has emerged.

I've taken to calling it 'rushing (traffic) roulette,' and it's a scene that plays itself out, groundhog-day style, every duty day.

You know the drill. About 50 or so yards from veering left under the overpass toward Hickam's main gate, a lane decision has to be made.

The wrong choice can cost anywhere from a couple of car lengths to spending 10 minutes fuming in the pre-gate parking lot.

Regardless of which chosen, the front of the lanes share one common thread. Two of every three Team Hickam members checking IDs are not wearing a beret.

They're the base Reserve Augmentee Duty volunteers.

I've been fortunate to write a few READY troop articles, sharing their impressive list of accomplishments.

Yet the only time I had spent thinking about them in the morning was covertly spying their nametape so I could give a personalized greeting.

That was until last week, when the READY senior airman in front of me saw something she didn't like, and made a motion to the security forces member to come check it out.

It wasn't until later in the day the true meaning of that simple action came shining through.

I had witnessed force protection in action. Most likely, the READY troop turned away someone who didn't have hostile intentions toward the members of Hickam who live, work and play inside our gates.

But in that simple act she had done more for base security than most of us accomplish.

The 15th Security Force Squadron is stretched thinner than excuses from Janet Jackson's publicist.

Pick any hot spot on the international cauldron of conflict, and we have cops there, performing as bravely as they are anonymously.

But here at home, they need help, in big heaping piles.

READY duty is inconvenient, to be sure.

But to 15th SFS personnel on the never-ending TDY and deployments treadmill, it means there is someone here dedicating time to ensure their spouses and children are receiving the same 'not on my watch' force protection they'd be providing if not deployed.

It seems like a small cost.

Any enlisted member on base is eligible to become part of the READY team.

If you'd like to take an active interest in Hickam's force protection, contact 1st Lt. Tamara Groves, base READY program monitor, at 449-8627.

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Deadline for copy is 1 p.m. Friday for the following Friday's issue. Copy must be typed and double-spaced or e-mailed, in 12-point type and on a 60-character line.





## Buckle-up for safety

Lt. Col. Jeff Spear, 15th Airlift Wing Safety chief, visually confirms Senior Airman Ben Karanja, 735th Air Mobility Squadron, is wearing his seatbelt Monday afternoon.

In accordance with recent directives from Pacific Air Forces commander, the base safety office, in conjunction with security forces, conduct monthly no-notice inspections around the base to ensure personnel are wearing their seatbelts and motorcyclists are donning proper personal protection equipment.

One hundred eighteen inspections were completed Monday, with the base having a 100 percent compliance rate.

Photo by Angela Elbern

# Hickam Tax Center

*Here to save military members money, time*

By Airman Ryan Simpson  
Staff Writer

Hickam Tax Center can help base personnel file their taxes, before the April 15 deadline.

The mission of the HTC is to provide prompt and professional tax preparation services to all eligible personnel, said Tech. Sgt. Paul Bolt, Tax Center noncommissioned officer in charge.

The HTC is authorized to aid the following individuals with their taxes: active-duty military, military dependent family members, reserve military members, retired military, and Department of Defense civilians.

"Since the opening of the HTC, we have generated 2,143 federal returns and 1,492 state returns," said Sergeant Bolt.

The HTC has saved approximately \$375,000 in preparation fees and has generated approximately \$4 million in tax returns.

The HTC staff members encourage military personal to come to the tax center instead of going downtown. According to Sergeant Bolt there are three reasons for military personnel to file their taxes at the HTC.

"Downtown locations boast that they can get your return faster than anyone else," he said. "This is true to a point, they will give you your return in two to three days, but that speed comes at a cost. Here at the HTC we get returns to the clients in 10 to 13 days."

The second reason Sergeant Bolt stated is accuracy. The HTC volunteers receive the same if not more training as the downtown locations. In addition the HTC volunteers are trained in tax laws that apply specifically to military personnel.

"The most appealing reason for military personal to file their taxes at the HTC is that your taxes are prepared in the same professional manner as downtown locations and the price is free," said Sergeant Bolt. "Having individual taxes prepared downtown will cost the client on average \$175."

In preparation for visiting the tax center the client should bring copies of their W2, any 1099 interest statements, 1098 mortgage interest statements, college tuition costs, and any day care expenses.

"When claiming day care expenses you need to bring the name, address and taxpayer identification of the person or organization providing the care," said Sergeant Bolt.

"If you have purchased or refinanced a home during the 2003 calendar year you should also bring the closing documents."

The primary advantage the HTC provides to the military member is the ability to have individual taxes, federal and state, prepared in an accurate, timely and professional manner free of cost.

The center is open until 4:30 p.m. April 15.

For more information visit the Hickam Tax Center or call 448-0712.

## Tax fiction and facts

**Fiction:** College books are included in qualified tuition and fees.

**Fact:** College textbooks are only considered qualified tuition and fees if purchased only from the school as a condition of enrollment.

**Fiction:** A couple gets married late in the year, they should file as single.

**Fact:** When filing your taxes, there are only two filing statuses, married and single. Your filing status is determined by your actual status December 31. If you are married you will have to choose between, "married joint" and "married separate".

**Fiction:** I only contributed to my ROTH IRA and that has no affect on my tax return.

**Fact:** While contributing to your retirement plan may not count as a deduction from you income, it might possible qualify you for tax credits. These tax credits are limited by income level and amount contributed to the retirement plan.

**Fiction:** My friend, a staff sergeant like me, got a large return, should I get a large return also.

**Fact:** Even though two individuals may be the same rank and receive the same pay, the idea of individual income taxes hold true. Each person has his or her own individual tax picture and therefore there own unique tax profile.

**Fiction:** If I sell my home, I have two years to reinvest the proceeds from the sale to avoid capital gain taxes.

**Fact:** Capital gain realized from the sale of a home is governed by a complex set of rules. All or some of the gain may be excluded from your income. To find out the facts of your situation contact a tax professional or you legal office.





## Children who care

Senior Airman Vanessa Munoz, member of 15th Security Forces speaks with Jonah Lampe, 10, as Senior Airman Chris Michaels, 15th SFS receives teddy bears from Anthony O'Donnell, 9, and Courtney Ortega, 7, from Hickam Elementary School. Students collected stuffed animals as part of the Annual Teddy Bear Round-up for Child Abuse Prevention Month.

The Family Advocacy Program will take the stuffed animals to Prevent Child Abuse-Hawaii where they will be distributed to children who reside temporarily in shelters and clinics around Oahu. The Hickam community can bring any new or slightly worn teddy bear or stuffed animal for collection at the BXtra lanai on Thursday or to either the Pediatric Clinic or Family Advocacy until April 2. Call Family Advocacy for details, 449-0175.

Photo by James Gamble

# Mold: Huh, what is it good for?

By Airman Ryan Simpson  
Staff Writer

In Hawaii mold issues are frequently discussed in the local news and this has generated public concern on Hickam.

Molds are fungi that grow on damp or decaying organic matter or on living organisms, said Staff Sgt. Stephen Perry, 15th Medical Group Bioenvironmental Engineering.

According to Sergeant Perry fungi is of a major group of saprophytic and parasitic spore-producing organisms usually classified as plants that lack chlorophyll and include molds, rusts, mildews, smuts, mushrooms and yeasts.

Outdoors, molds play a part in nature by breaking down dead organic matter such as fallen leaves and dead trees, but indoors, mold growth should be avoided.

"Molds reproduce by means of tiny spores; the spores are invisible to the naked eye and float through the air," said Sergeant Perry.

According to Sergeant Perry molds are usually not a problem indoors, unless mold spores land on a wet or damp spot and begin growing.

"There are many types of mold, and none of them will grow without water or moisture," said Sergeant Perry.

Molds have the potential to cause health prob-

lems. "Allergic reactions to mold are common and they can be immediate or delayed," said Sergeant Perry. "Molds can also cause asthma attacks in people with asthma who are allergic to mold."

Allergic responses include hay fever-type symptoms, such as sneezing, runny nose, red eyes, and skin rash (dermatitis). In addition, mold exposure can irritate the skin, throat, and lungs of both mold-allergic and non-allergic people, said Sergeant Perry. Symptoms other than the allergic and irritant types are not commonly reported as a result of inhaling mold. Research on mold and health effects is ongoing, said Sergeant Perry.

If a person believes that their health is being affected by mold they should contact and see a health care provider.

"The key to mold control is prevention," said Sergeant Perry.

It's impossible to get rid of all mold and mold spores indoors; some mold spores will be found floating through the air and in house dust. The mold spores will not grow if moisture is not present.

Indoor mold growth can and should be prevented or controlled by controlling moisture indoors. If there is mold growth in a home, occupants must clean up the mold and fix the water problem.

"To be sure the molds are gone you must have

completely fixed the water or moisture problem before the cleanup or remediation can be considered finished," said Sergeant Perry.

According to the Sergeant Perry to have completed mold removal: visible mold and moldy odors should not be present, no signs of water damage or mold growth, people should have been able to occupy or re-occupy the area without health complaints or physical symptoms and if people have additional concerns or questions call the Indoor Air Quality Information Clearinghouse at (800) 438-4318.

"The key to mold control is prevention," said Sergeant Perry.

"Keep vulnerable building materials clean and dry. Mold can be easily cleaned with commercial products."

If anyone is susceptible to mold, and mold is seen or smelled, there is a potential health risk; therefore, no matter what type of mold is present, sufferers should remove the mold or arrange for its removal.

For those who live in privatized housing call Hickam community housing maintenance at 423-1650. Personnel that reside in government housing call Del Jen at 422-4454.

For more information or questions, call the 15th MDG Bioenvironmental Engineering office at 449-6814.



# The Crime Line

**Editors Note:** The 15th Security Forces Squadron would like to keep the Hickam community abreast of security forces incidents on Hickam AFB. Here is a sample of sanitized excerpts from the security forces blotter.

## **Vandalism:**

A military dependant telephoned the Security Forces Control Center reporting vandalism to her automobile. Caller complained of eggs thrown at her parked car. A mobile patrolman collected a statement from the complainant.

## **Shoplifting:**

An exchange store detective telephoned the SFCC requesting assistance detaining a shoplifter. Mobile patrols arrived on scene, collected statements and processed an Air National Guard troop for shoplifting. Value of shoplifted merchandise: \$70.

## **Disorderly conduct/public intoxication::**

The SFCC received an anonymous call reporting a male individual walking on Kuntz Boulevard, creating a disturbance. A mobile patrolman responded and observed the subject walking in the middle of the road yelling obscenities. The patrolman detained the subject and eventually escorted him off the installation.

## **Patrol assistance:**

A military family member telephoned the SFCC from an on-base billeting room reporting her spouse was banging on the door attempting to make illegal entry. Complainant stated a Temporary Restraining Order was issued between the parties. Patrols responded, made contact with the complainant and searched for the subject. Pearl Harbor Law Enforcement was briefed on the incident.

## **Trespassing:**

While conducting a walk-through of the Base

Exchange, a mobile patrolman noticed a suspicious individual. The patrolman conducted a field interview on the subject and ran his name through the National Crime and Information Center. It was discovered the subject was barred from the installation. The subject was issued a U. S. Magistrate citation and escorted off installation.

## **Passenger terminal assistance:**

An employee at the base passenger terminal telephoned the SFCC requesting assistance with an unruly customer. Patrolman arrived on scene, detained the subject and released him to the Honolulu Police Department.

## **Private property theft:**

An active-duty Air Force member telephoned the Security Forces Control center reporting a bicycle was stolen from their Hickam residence. A patrolman arrived on scene to investigate and complete a report.

## **Patrol assistance:**

The base Fire Department telephoned the SFCC relating there was an individual who went into labor and requested security forces assistance. Medical personnel arrived on scene and transported the individual to the hospital.

## **Assault and indecent exposure:**

An individual telephoned the SFCC relating someone would not let them leave the parking lot of J.R. Rockers, and they were also fondling and talking dirty to them. Patrol responded neutralizing the situation, apprehending an individual and compiled a report.

## **Child neglect:**

An individual telephoned the SFCC relating they witnessed an active-duty member leave their 23-month-old child home unattended. Security forces arrived on scene to witness the child left unattended. Entry to the facility was immediately gained, and the parent was later apprehended.

## **Patrol assistance:**

An individual telephoned the SFCC requesting immediate assistance for an unruly juvenile. Security forces arrived on scene and relayed the juvenile was throwing rocks and disrupting other children. The sponsor of the juvenile was notified and took control of the child.

## **Shoplifting:**

An exchange store detective reported detaining a civilian for shoplifting. Mobile patrols responded, detained and processed the shoplifter. Shoplifter was released to her sponsor.

## **Traffic warrants:**

Mobile patrols initiated a traffic stop revealing the driver had two outstanding warrants. Individual was detained and released to HPD.

## **Patrol assistance:**

A mobile patrol radioed the SFCC of a moped accident at the main gate. Officer on scene treated the moped operator for several lacerations to their right knee, chin and wrist. HPD arrived on scene and took control of the investigation.

## **Fire response damage to government property:**

An individual telephoned the SFCC relating a stove was on fire. Mobile patrols and the fire department responded and evacuated the premises. The fire was extinguished. Investigation revealed minor damage to government quarters, the amount was undetermined.





## TEAM HICKAM

## News Notes

**Air Force Retiree Appreciation Day moves to Hangar 7** – For those planning to attend Hickam's Retiree Appreciation Day on Tuesday the location of the event has changed from the Hickam Officer's Club to Hangar 7, adjacent to the Pacific Air Force's Headquarters building. Parking for retirees will be provided between Hangars 7 and 11.

**HESC membership drive and bingo Tuesday** – The Hickam Enlisted Spouses' Club is holding a membership drive at their March meeting 6:30 p.m. Tuesday at the Tradewinds Enlisted Club. Join the HESC for bingo and Hawaiian style fun, no advanced reservations required. Prospective members fall into one of the following criteria spouse of any enlisted person working or residing on Hickam, spouse of civilian employee (GS7 or equivalent and

below), enlisted members of the Hickam community, including active Guard or Reserve, spouse of retired enlisted members, widow of enlisted members or adult dependants living in-residence with their sponsor. Visit us on the web at [www.orgsites.com/hi/hesc](http://www.orgsites.com/hi/hesc) or call Lora Bowler at 421-0607 for more information.

**Food drive needs volunteers April 10, 17, 24** – The Hawaii Food Bank's Annual Food Drive campaign needs volunteers to collect food April 10, 17 and 24 at the Hickam Commissary. The food donations are to help feed Hawaii's hungry. People who wish to help can contact Senior Master Sgt. Tim Griffin at 449-4695, or Michelle Carlos at 449-4315.

**Volunteers needed at the Family Support Center** – The Family Support Center is soliciting volunteers to assist with exercises, family crisis, disasters and wartime mission requirements. People interested in volunteering can call 449-0300. Volunteers are invited to attend an orientation today from, 12:30 to 1:30 p.m. or 5 to 6 p.m.

**Hickam Career Advisor relocates to building 1102** – The Team Hickam Career Assistance Advisor Master Sgt. Glenn Taijeron, has relocated to building 1102, room B103A. Sergeant Taijeron can be reached at 448-BLUE (2583); the assistant to the CAA, Airman 1st Class Iris Figueroa, can be reached at 448-2584. The office fax number is 448-2585.

**Company Grade Officer meetings change time** – The Company Grade Officer Council meetings from

lunchtime on the first Wednesday of every month to 4 p.m. on the first Friday of every month. The meetings are held at the Koa Lounge. Immediately following the CGOC meetings, the club will kick off a First Friday celebration with door prizes, Super Pau Hana, beer tastings, bands and karaoke.

**Society of American Military Engineers Scholarship application deadline approaches** – A \$1,500 scholarship will be given away to a high school senior or full-time undergraduate or graduate student at a university with an accredited engineering or architecture program. Application with transcript has to be post marked by May 10. To find out more call Commander Bert Diehl, U.S. Coast Guard at (808) 541-2200.

**Hickam's Women's History Month luncheon is Wednesday** – The Hickam's National Women's History Month committee will celebrate "Women inspiring hope and possibility" with a luncheon Wednesday at the Hickam Officers' Club lanai from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. Everyone is invited to attend, with tickets available for sale to the first 200 people. The cost is \$10 per ticket. To purchase tickets contact 2nd Lt. Cherissa Dechico at 449-0300. Entertainment will be provided by hula dancers. The keynote/guest speaker will be the renowned Emme Tominbang.

**Opening day for little league is April 3** – Little League opening day ceremonies are scheduled for 8:30 a.m. April 3 on the base football field next to the bowling center. Questions can be direct-

ed to Eric Day at 422-1851.

**Services squadron holds membership drive** – The 15th Services Squadron is holding a joint club membership drive "Spring Squadron Challenge." Pick up a squadron challenge signup card at participating clubs. Every new member each squadron recruits, qualifies the challenge card holder for \$2 in club bucks. The squadron which recruits the highest percentage of new members for the clubs wins a giant pizza/beverage party at its next scheduled commander's call provided completely free by the clubs. For more information, call John Stanchfield at 449-1030 ext. 236.

**Rules on dining facility usage** – The use of the Hale Aina Dining Facility is restricted to enlisted members and those individuals authorized by the installation commander. The following are authorized: enlisted members who are subsisted-in-kind; enlisted members who receive a BAS; enlisted members receiving the meal portion of per diem; commanders and/or designated representatives; officers receiving meal portion of per diem due to TDY; DoD civilians receiving meal portion of per diem due to TDY; Army, Navy and/or Marines stationed in Hawaii; all TDY personnel when authorization is included in TDY orders and others at the discretion of 15 AW/CC. The following are NOT authorized to utilize the Hale Aina Dining Facility: officers other than commanders or designated representatives; all civilians and/or DoD civilians not on orders; dependent family members of military personnel; retirees of all military branches



**‘Tats for Tots’**

**Airman First Class David Dimmit, 324th Intelligence Squadron, tattoos Jeremy Maimstead, 6, son of Tech. Sgt. Mitchell and Vanya Malmstead during an Deployed Spouses dinner at the Hale Aina Dinning Facility on Wednesday. Sergeant Maimstead is currently on a one-year-tour in Kunsan.**

Photo by Angela Elbern

# AAFES unveils new Web site "Serving Troops Downrange"

By Airman Ryan Simpson  
Staff Writer

Team Hickam members can now view their deployed location's exchange on-line with Army Air Force Exchange Services new "Serving Troops Downrange" Web site.

AAFES launched the new Web site to provide deployed troops and family members with information regarding support downrange. The "Serving Troops Downrange" site can be accessed at <http://www.aafes.com/downrange/home.htm>. The site was developed to provide troops command and family members with an opportunity to see what kind of PX/BX facilities are available at downrange locations throughout Operations Iraqi and Enduring Freedom.

Airman First Class Anthony Zilmer, 15th Civil

Engineer Squadron, saw first hand the facilities AAFES ran for Operation Enduring Freedom.

"The BX where I was had everything I needed," he said. "The BX brought a little feeling of home for us there.

"It's a comfort to know all of your needs are taken care of and if you need something all you need to do is ask," Airman Zilmer said.

The new Web site will be a information tool for all affected by deployments.

"We have communities preparing for deployments and the local commands are asking what kind of exchange facilities the troops can expect," said Maj. Gen. Kathryn Frost, AAFES commander. "With this new site, military units and family members can be better informed concerning AAFES support when facing deployment," she added.

The site includes exterior and interior views of con-

tingency facilities with complete information about food and service operations currently available at each location.

To have this Web site is a great help to people deployed," said Airmen Zilmer. "It's a good way to know what type of BX you are going to before you leave," he said.

The site lists specific regions and all AAFES sites within. It also has deployment information such as the best value for calling home and downrange stock assortment.

"I think many people wonder what it's like downrange, and even though this site can only provide a brief glimpse of OIF/OEF PX/BX operations, it offers a good introduction to the support AAFES can supply during deployment, " said Marilyn Iverson, Chief Operating Officer, AAFES. *(Information courtesy of an AAFES News release)*



# Women's Army Corps land 60 years ago

By Steven Diamond  
15th Airlift Wing historian

March not only marks "Women's History Month," it also commemorates the 60th anniversary of the arrival of the first Women's Army Corps in Hawaii.

On March 17, 1944 some 286 "girl soldiers" (as they were called back then) wearing steel helmets and khaki uniforms stepped down a gangplank at Honolulu Harbor near the camouflaged Aloha Tower.

Their destination? Hickam Field.

In the lingo of those times, the Honolulu Star-Bulletin reported the "GI Janes" would take over enlisted men's non-combat duties, such as administrative office and motor transport work.

As the newspaper reported, "Arrival of the members of the women's army created considerable stir at their assignment base because many island service men ... never before had seen the female species of Uncle Sam's GI family."

Americans initially had difficulty accepting the idea of women in uniform. The Japanese attack on Oahu Dec. 7, 1941 changed everything.

In May 1942, Congress passed a bill establishing the Women's Army



Courtesy photo

**With the camouflaged Honolulu Aloha Tower in the background, Hawaii's first Women's Army Corps' members board buses headed for Hickam Field March 1944.**

Auxiliary Corps. Although required to wear military uniforms, WAACs were civilian employees. When President Franklin D. Roosevelt signed the bill May 15, 1942, America's leaders had in mind a recruitment goal of 25,000 for the first year.

WAAC recruiting passed that goal within seven months, leading Secretary of War Henry Stinson to raise the enrollment ceiling to 150,000 — the number of American women who ultimately served in WWII. In July 1943, the Women's Army Corps was formed, allowing

members of the WAAC to join as regular military members with pay, privileges and protection equal to that given male military personnel.

In August 1943, all women pilots flying for the Army Air Force were consolidated into another new organization — the Women's Airforce Service Pilots.

While more than 25,000 women applied for pilot training under the program, only 1,830 were accepted for training, and 1,074 graduated as pilots.

The AAF assigned WASPs to a wide variety of flight assignments.

Female pilots worked as flight training instructors and glider tow pilots, and towed targets for air-to-air and anti-aircraft gunnery practice. WASPs also flew engineering test aircraft and ferried aircraft.

By the end of the war, WASPs had flown all types of military aircraft, including transports, attack aircraft, bombers, fighters and trainers.

The WASPS program was deactivated Dec. 20, 1944.

America's women pilots flew more than 16 million miles and delivered nearly 13,000 aircraft during the course of the war — just the beginning for women in what would soon become the United States Air Force.



# Around the Air Force

## Guam Bombers

ANDERSEN AIR FORCE BASE, Guam -- Senior Airmen William Fay (right) and Kory McLeod prepare to launch a B-52 Stratofortress bomber aircraft during night flying here. The Airmen are 5th Bomb Wing crew chiefs deployed from Minot Air Force Base, N.D. They are among the first rotation of Airmen sent to Guam since U.S. Pacific Command officials decided to station a bomber force here. Officials said the continuous bomber presence is aimed at enhancing regional security, demonstrating United States' commitment to Western Pacific and providing training opportunities that integrate bombers into joint and coalition forces in the Pacific.

Photo by Master Sgt. Val Gempis



## U.S. AIR FORCE

**Editor's Note:** For these full Air Force stories and more check out [www.af.mil](http://www.af.mil).

**Women's issues need 'enlightened leadership' to flourish** – ARLINGTON, Va. – Emerging issues pertaining to military and civilian women highlighted discussion at a Defense Department forum here Tuesday.

The forum's aim, officials said, was to provide feedback and recommendations to senior leaders that will thwart future problems.

Organizers said the forum sought to review key issues relating to women in DOD and the affect of these issues on readiness, and to provide briefings on focus-group discussions to the department's senior leaders.

Subjects discussed at the forum's workshops included: sexual assault; recruitment and retention issues; and the implications of an aging work force.

Retired Maj. Gen. Susan L. Pamerleau spoke at the workshop. She is the vice president for membership development for the United Services Automobile Association, which has its headquarters in San Antonio.

General Pamerleau, who visited each workshop, said reports from the facilitators and her own impressions of the group discussions told her the forum is a valuable way of using the National Women's History Month observance.

She said this year's theme, "Women Inspiring Hope and Possibility," offers an opportunity to celebrate the extraordinary accomplishments of women in America. Today's challenges and issues are not merely women's issues, General Pamerleau said;

they are leadership issues that require the total focus of every commander and leader at every level. She said sexual harassment and sexual assault in the workplace and an aging federal work force add to already serious problems of recruiting and retention.

"I've seen evolutionary and revolutionary change for women," she said, "but the least disruptive were those issues attacked by our leaders, who championed the causes and who believed in giving every individual a right to reach (his or her) fullest potential."

General Pamerleau said from the late 1960s, when she joined the Air Force, she saw military and civilian women go higher and higher throughout DOD. "That happened because some men in leadership [positions] encouraged those women and then followed up by placing them in senior leadership positions," she said. (Story by Rudi Williams, American Forces Press Service.)

**Ethics regulations guide Airmen in political activities** – WASHINGTON – With less than nine months until the next federal election, political activity is heating up in the nation's capital and around the country.

Airmen may want to get involved in what are some of the most fundamental activities of American democracy: campaigning and politicking. But as employees of the federal government, servicemembers must ensure their participation in political activities does not violate government ethics regulations, said Melinda Loftin, the Air Force associate general counsel for fiscal and administrative law.

"Members of the armed services are encouraged to carry out their obligation of citizenship by voting," Ms. Loftin said. "But while on active duty, they are prohibited from engaging in certain political activities."

The restrictions on what a servicemember can do may seem numerous, but they serve an important purpose. They are meant to assure the American public that agents of the government, such as servicemembers, do not have undue influence on the American electoral process, officials said.

Servicemembers can express their personal opinions on candidates for office, but they must ensure their opinions are a reflection of themselves and not of the military. Airmen may join political clubs, attend political meetings and rallies as a spectator when not in uniform and make contributions to political organizations. They may also display bumper stickers (but not large signs) on their personal vehicles and sign petitions to put candidates

on the ballot, Ms. Loftin said.

Servicemembers may also participate in what is perhaps the most important political activity, Ms. Loftin said.

"Members on active duty may register to vote, they may vote, and [they] are in fact encouraged to vote," she said. Servicemembers are allowed to vote while in uniform.

Issues involving federal employees and political activities are embodied in several publications, including the Joint Ethics Regulation. (Story by Staff Sgt. C. Todd Lopez, Air Force Print News)

**Getting fit sets good example** – EGLIN AIR FORCE BASE, Fla. – When the Air Force unveiled its new exercise program many Airmen did not think much of it, but for some it was an eye-opener and more of an incentive to get in shape.

That is what Master Sgt. Michael Moss of the 33rd Maintenance Squadron's aerospace ground equipment flight thought. Six months ago, Sergeant Moss was overweight and could not run half of the required distance to pass the new fitness test. Now he is setting the example for his flight and feeling better than he ever has.

"I started off not being able to make a full run," Sergeant Moss said. "[I would] run half way there and walk the rest of the way back. I wasn't in shape, by (any) means."

Through a vigorous exercise program he began in November that included crunches, pushups and running, and by watching his diet and cutting out sugars and junk foods, Sergeant Moss has dropped more than 20 pounds. Now he is challenging the younger Airmen in his flight to get in shape.

"I needed to set an example and that kind of stuck with me," he said. "I took the program seriously."

The entire AGE flight exercises three times a week in a program managed by their flight superintendent, Senior Master Sgt. June Robbins. She said they all keep track of their progress and know where they stand when their time comes to test, but it is always good to see the results first hand.

"It gives you a lot of satisfaction to see someone like Mike," she said about his noticeable improvements. "He's lost the weight on his own, and then his run time has reduced drastically because of the weight loss."

Sergeant Robbins said the flight continues to exercise three times a week with an emphasis set on improvement.

"We're going to be doing it and we're going to be good at it," she said. (Story by Staff Sgt. Robert Zoellner, 33rd Fighter Wing Public Affairs)





Above: Staff Sgt. Jerel Gabriel is welcomed home by coworker Staff Sgt. Brandi Thomas. Left: Tech. Sgt. Edward Sarmiento throws a big shaka to returning 15th Services Squadron member Staff Sgt. Tammy McBride.

*Photos by Jerry Banks*

# Home again: 15th SVS members return

By Tech. Sgt. Mark Munsey  
Kukini Editor

When the word 'services' is featured prominently in a squadron's name, it's a forgone conclusion that their duty day is spent taking care of customers, regardless of duty location.

But 18 warriors assigned to the 15th Services Squadron were on the receiving end of the hospitality train Saturday, and for good reason.

They had just completed a four-month deployment to Southwest Asia.

After receiving a hero's welcome at Honolulu International Airport, where they were met by friends, family and their commander and acting first sergeant, the returning team was taken to the base community center for a capacity-crowd reception.

The team's efforts while deployed weren't that different from the job they perform here, but their

contributions at the deployed location have a far greater value, according to Lt. Col. Denise Hollywood, 15th SVS commander.

"Day in and day out, services' troops provide quality of life support for Team Hickam personnel — from our first class dining facilities, to the busiest fitness center and honor guard/mortuary programs in PACAF, to our world class lodging operation," Colonel Hollywood said. "However, their behind the scenes support sometimes goes unnoticed at home station, but not in a deployed location where they make the difference between an MRE and a hot meal, between a run outside in the heat or a workout in a fully equipped fitness tent."

While the team may have been gone, based on Saturday's reception it was obvious they were far from forgotten, she said.

"It was awesome to see the diversity of the folks who came out to support our returning troops,"

she said. "Between the turn out at the airport and the reception at the community center, Team SVS was truly in full force Saturday afternoon. It was a fitting tribute to our returning warriors," she said.

The 15th SVS personnel deployed as a unit, and that made quite a difference at the deployed location, according to Staff Sgt. Ricardo Rodriguez, one of the returning team members.

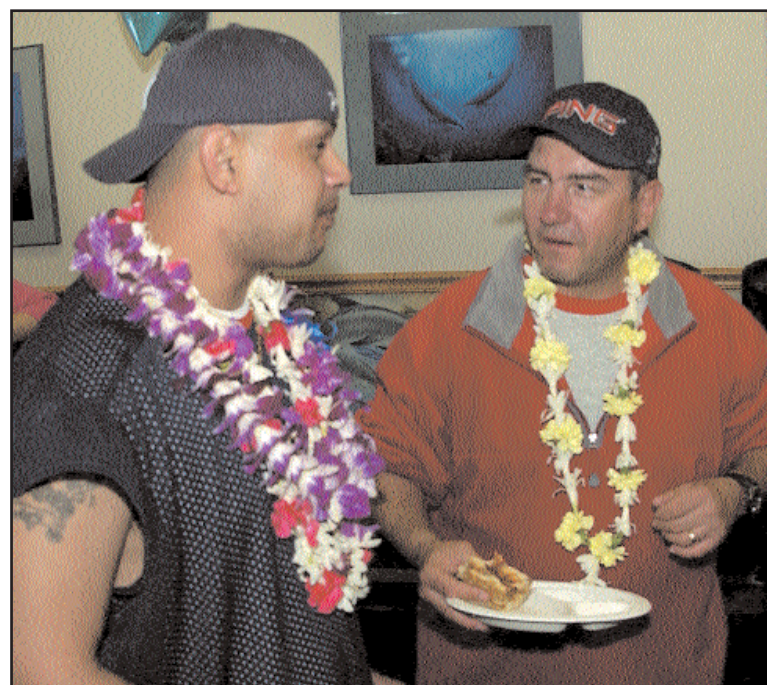
"We knew everyone and what each other was capable of doing," Sergeant Rodriguez said. "Whatever the situation, we were able to take care of business right away."

While the reception was a spirited one, it was also relatively short because the returnees had other things on their minds, most notably getting started on some time off.

"I'm taking two weeks leave," Sergeant Rodriguez said. "I'm heading home to Puerto Rico to do nothing but relax."



Above: Chela Vaughn, 17-month-old daughter Alyssa and husband Airman 1st Class Yamelle Vaughn are greeted by unit superintendent Senior Master Sgt. Vernon Boardley. Right: Staff Sgt. Ricardo Rodriguez shares some food and good cheer with Tech. Sgt. Ronald Syska during the reception held at the community center Saturday afternoon.





# A view inside the secret world of the Air Force Officers' Dining In

By Tech. Sgt. Mark Munsey  
Kukini Editor

**Editor's note:** Obviously I wasn't there, so I am relying on information from a very trustworthy source that requested anonymity. And if that's what the 15th Airlift Wing vice commander wants, who am I to argue?

Mention the term 'dining in' to anyone that has attended the event in the past, and most will share the typical nostalgia-soaked memories.

The pageantry and camaraderie. The tradition and team building.

The grog bowl, always the grog bowl.

More than 170 commissioned officers, from the greenest second lieutenant to the three-star Pacific Air Forces vice commander, attended the Air Force Officers' Dining In March 19 at the Officers' Club Lanai.

Though the evening was dedicated to social revelry, force protection still remained a very real concern, so who better to taste test dinner than Lt. Col. Don Derry, 15th Security Forces Squadron commander and Mr. Vice for the evening.

Donning full Mission Oriented Protection Posture level IV gear, Colonel Derry unselfishly ensured no officers would be harmed in the digestion of the evening's meal.

The highlight of the evening was the opening of the grog bowl, and it seemed from the start that several members of the mess in attendance came with an agenda, with one fresh grievance having occurred earlier that day at the Hickam Enlisted Golf Tournament.

Lt. Gen. Gene Renuart, PACAF vice commander, regaled the mess with the story of one unfortunate attendee's poor golfing skills, and a slice shot that locked onto COMPACAF's staff car in the parking lot.

The owner of the errant golf shot may have had the most explicitly-detailed call to the grog, he was far from alone in making the trip.

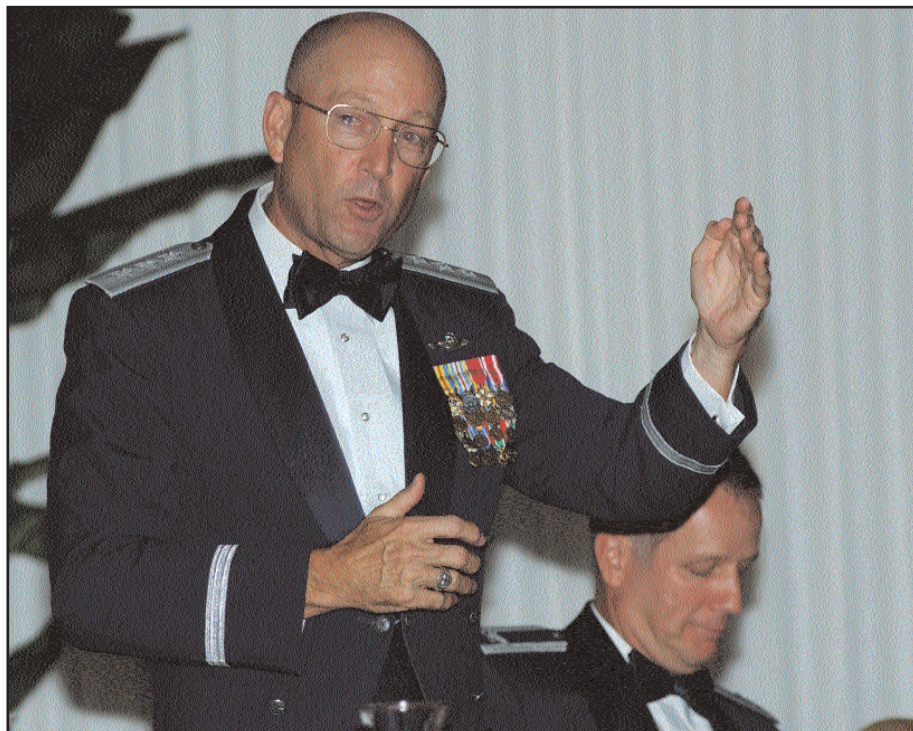
The president of the mess, Col. Ray Torres, 15th Airlift Wing commander, wheeled an especially heavy gavel throughout the evening, and showed precious little mercy for those he determined to be quibblers.

There were several groups from the mess that made the trip, most notably the 'Wolfpack,' a collection of officers who have the unique distinction of having all been assigned to Kunsan Air Base, Korea, led by Brig. Gen. Polly Peyer, PACAF Logistics director.



The POW/MIA table at the dining in.

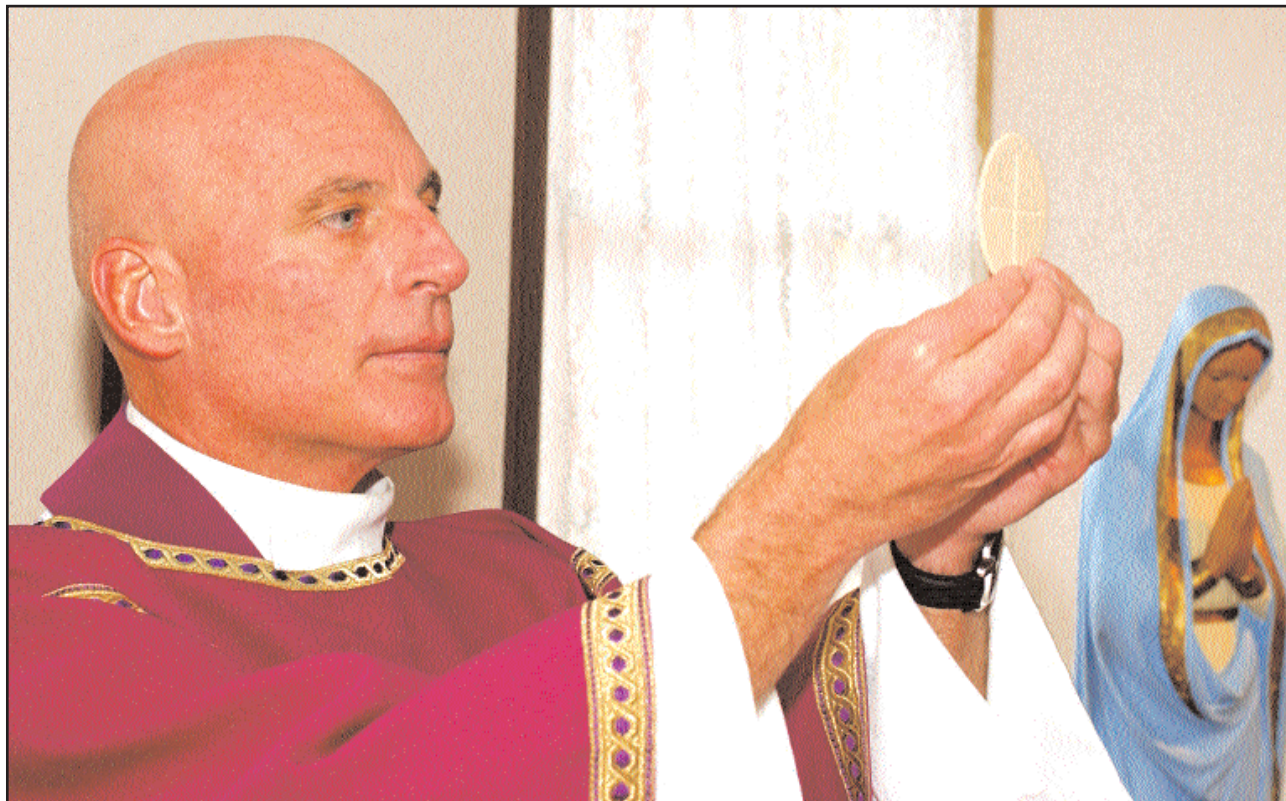
Photos by Angela Elbern



Above: Col. Al Riggle (left), Pacific Air Forces Security Forces director, shares a moment of levity with Lt. Col. Chip Harriman, 56th Air and Space Operations Defense Operations chief and Lt. Col. Don Derry (right), 15th Security Forces commander and Mr. Vice for Air Force Officer's Dining In. Left: Lt. Gen. Gene Renuart, PACAF vice commander, shares the story of the unfortunate golfer who was ultimately summoned to the grog bowl. Below: Several members of the mess salute the grog bowl en masse.







## Here to serve

Team Hickam would like to welcome Chaplain (Lt. Col.) Michael Biewend as the new 15th Airlift Wing senior chaplain. He came to Hickam from Randolph Air Force Base, Texas, where he was working at the Air Force Recruiting Service. He was responsible for planning, executing and analyzing operations focused on recruiting the highest qualified clergy, necessary to meet Air Force requirements. He was raised in San Francisco, Calif. and is an ordained Roman Catholic priest.


Chapel

**Protestant**  
*Nelles Chapel*  
Sunday contemporary service - 8:30 a.m.  
Gospel worship service - 11:15 a.m.  
*Chapel Center*  
Sunday traditional - 8:30 a.m.

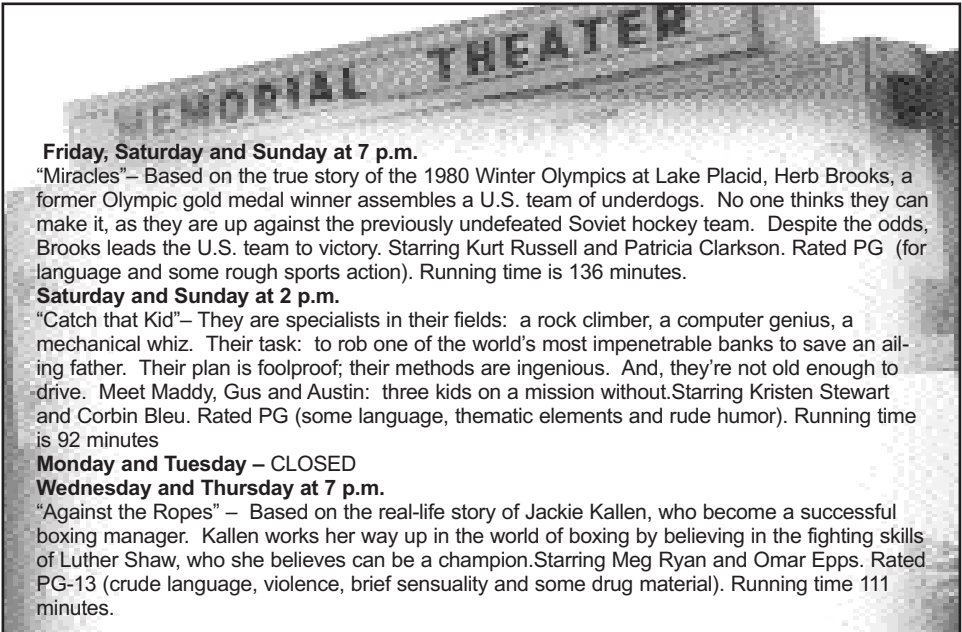
**Catholic**  
*Nelles Chapel*  
Saturday confessions - 4:15 p.m.;  
Saturday Mass - 5 p.m.  
*Chapel Center*  
Sunday mass - 10 a.m.

**Jewish**  
Aloha Jewish Chapel, Pearl Harbor Aloha  
Chapel. 471-3971.

**Orthodox**  
For more information, call 438-6687.



Movies



**Friday, Saturday and Sunday at 7 p.m.**  
“Miracles”– Based on the true story of the 1980 Winter Olympics at Lake Placid, Herb Brooks, a former Olympic gold medal winner assembles a U.S. team of underdogs. No one thinks they can make it, as they are up against the previously undefeated Soviet hockey team. Despite the odds, Brooks leads the U.S. team to victory. Starring Kurt Russell and Patricia Clarkson. Rated PG (for language and some rough sports action). Running time is 136 minutes.

**Saturday and Sunday at 2 p.m.**  
“Catch that Kid”– They are specialists in their fields: a rock climber, a computer genius, a mechanical whiz. Their task: to rob one of the world’s most impenetrable banks to save an ailing father. Their plan is foolproof; their methods are ingenious. And, they’re not old enough to drive. Meet Maddy, Gus and Austin: three kids on a mission without.Starring Kristen Stewart and Corbin Bleu. Rated PG (some language, thematic elements and rude humor). Running time is 92 minutes

**Monday and Tuesday – CLOSED**  
**Wednesday and Thursday at 7 p.m.**  
“Against the Ropes” – Based on the real-life story of Jackie Kallen, who become a successful boxing manager. Kallen works her way up in the world of boxing by believing in the fighting skills of Luther Shaw, who she believes can be a champion.Starring Meg Ryan and Omar Epps. Rated PG-13 (crude language, violence, brief sensuality and some drug material). Running time 111 minutes.



# Crossword puzzle

## Hometown USAF (Vol. 6)

ACROSS

- 1. Train need
- 5. Washington AFB home to 62nd AW
- 8. Former California Army fort
- 9. Oklahoma AFB home to 71st FTW; a/c tail marking of VN
- 11. Romantic song
- 12. Adhesive
- 14. Winter danger
- 15. Owed
- 16. Apartment
- 17. Homer's neighbor on The Simpsons
- 18. Shah of Persia (1487-1524); Safavid founder
- 20. Military comm. person in the field (abbrev.)
- 21. Truck
- 22. Easter animal?
- 24. Snakelike fish
- 25. 007 writer Fleming
- 27. LPGA Se Ri \_\_\_\_\_
- 29. Missouri AFB home to

- 30. Actress Carrere of Wayne's World
  - 31. Intended
  - 33. Period of time
  - 38. Whitewater independent counsel
  - 40. Pointed tool
  - 41. Current
  - 43. Fencing sword
  - 45. Stem knob
  - 46. Again
  - 48. South Korea informally
  - 49. Expletive denoting surprise
- 509th BW; a/c tail marking of WM
  - 32. Drainage pipe
  - 34. Weary
  - 35. Duo
  - 36. Military org. concerned with household goods
  - 37. \_\_\_\_\_ Khan; hereditary spiritual head of Isma'ili Muslims
  - 39. Story opener
  - 42. Snare
  - 44. Cell acid similar to DNA
  - 47. Ohio AFB home to ASC
  - 50. Mining vein
  - 51. NBC television show
  - 52. Lyrical poem
  - 53. Mississippi AFB home to 403rd WG; a/c tail marking of KT
  - 54. Was aware of

DOWN

- 1. Georgia AFB home to 116th ACW; a/c tail marking of GA
- 2. Scavenger hunt (two words)
- 3. Rested
- 4. Angry
- 5. New Jersey AFB home to 108th ARW; a/c tail marking of NJ
- 6. Sky-blue color
- 7. Shade
- 9. California AFB home to 30th SW; a/c tail markings of HV
- 10. Florida AFB home to 920th RG; a/c tail marking of FL
- 13. Woman's magazine
- 16. Clenched

Crossword Puzzle Solutions

	К	Е	Е	З	Г	Е	В					К	И	Е	М
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У		Л			И	Е	Л		В			В	И	У	
			У	С	У		З		О	И	С	Е			
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М	Н	И	Л	Е	У	И		З	Е	М	Е	В			
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З				Е			В	Л	О		З	Е	У	И	
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В	У	Г	Г	У	Д		Г	П	Е		Е			У	
О	В	Д		А	У	И	С	Е		П				Ь	
В	У	И	Г		У		У	С	С	Н	О	В	Д		

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			37			38		39							
40		41			42	43						44	45	46	
47	48		49												
50						51						52			
	53											54			

- hand
- 19. England AB home to 423rd ABS
- 22. Military allowance (abbrev.)
- 23. Item
- 25. WWII site for 27 Medal of Honor recipients: \_\_\_\_\_ Jima
- 26. Father
- 27. Colorado AFB home to 302nd AW; a/c tail marking of CR
- 28. Appendage
- 30. Actress Carrere of Wayne's World
- 31. Intended
- 33. Period of time
- 38. Whitewater independent counsel
- 40. Pointed tool
- 41. Current
- 43. Fencing sword
- 45. Stem knob
- 46. Again
- 48. South Korea informally
- 49. Expletive denoting surprise

# Air Force bowlers roll over the competition – again

For the second year in a row, the Hawaii Air Force Bowling team out-bowled the competition to take the Hawaii All-Military Tournament all-events title.

The six-man, four-woman team knocked down 44,458 pins during the four-day tournament, beating second-place finishers Hawaii Navy team by 995 pins.

During day two of the competition, the mixed doubles event, took place at K-Bay Lanes at Kaneohe Marine Corps Base. Two-time champions Reggie Stenhouse and Celena Wilson, from the

Hawaii Air Force team, had a bull's eye square on their back.

"We were definitely going to try and take the three-peat," Stenhouse said.

At the end of six games of that day, Stenhouse and Wilson were crowned mixed doubles champions for the third year in a row, knocking down 2,486 pins.

The setting the third day of competition took place at the tournament's newest location – Fort Shafter. Brian Snyder from the Hawaii Air Force team won the men's singles title, knocking down a total of 1,331 pins.

The team competition took place on the last day at Pearl Harbor.

During the last game of the day, the bowling center quieted down as a single bowler stepped onto the lane, Air Force's Snyder. With 11 strikes in a row he was going for a perfect game. Everyone held their breath as he released his ball. The game ended – with a 10-pin standing and Snyder owning a near-perfect score of 299.

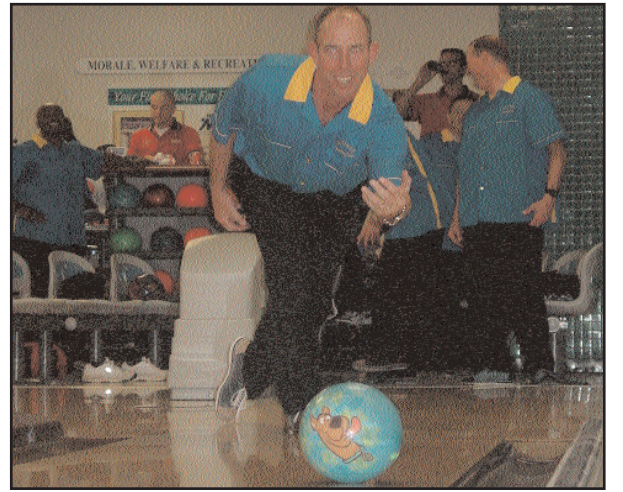


Photo by Celena Wilson

**Ron Schoolcraft let's his Scooby Doo bowling ball fly during tournament action March 19.**

The winners for the women's competition were the Hawaii Air Force team – Vonnice Petesch, Karen Plunkett, Marie Martin and Wilson. The four-woman team won with a total of 3,942 pins.

At the awards ceremony, the event champions were presented with their trophies. Petesch won the women's high-game award for bowling a 233 at K-Bay Lanes. Snyder won the men's high-game award for bowling that 299 at Pearl Harbor.

After finishing in second place for the past two years, Wilson won the women's all-events title with a four-day, 24-game total of 4,485 pins. She averaged 186.9 for the tournament.

Four Hawaii Air Force members made the Hawaii All-Military team. Named to the men's team were Snyder and Don Lytle. Named to the women's team were Wilson and Martin. (Information courtesy of 15th Airlift Wing Public Affairs office)



Photo by Eldon Wilson

**Members of the Hawaii Air Force men's and women's teams pose with their hardware at the completion of the four-day tournament March 19.**



# 15th CES grounds 15th CS

*Engineers use superior ground attack, airtight defense to overcome foul weather, defeat communicators*

**By Tech. Sgt. Mark Munsey**  
Kukini Editor

No timeouts, spartan use of substitutions and players that redefine 'iron man,' instantaneously transitioning from offense to defense and back dozens of times a half.

Players are in perpetual motion, running up to seven miles a game with only two small strips of plastic across their shins to provide personal protection.

Soccer is the most minimal of all team sports.

Games are often wars of attrition, with the soccer gods rewarding the best winded and able to adapt to conditions. That was never more evident than Monday as the 15th Civil Engineer Squadron overcame two enemies to run their second-place record to 7-2-3.

Their more obvious opponent was the 15th Communications Squadron, a group of gutty players who weren't able to adapt their style of play and were ultimately defeated by the same external presence 15th CES subdued.

The weather was an equally important concern. Blustery winds were the order of the day, rendering offense through the air impossible.

Realizing this, 15th CES coach and

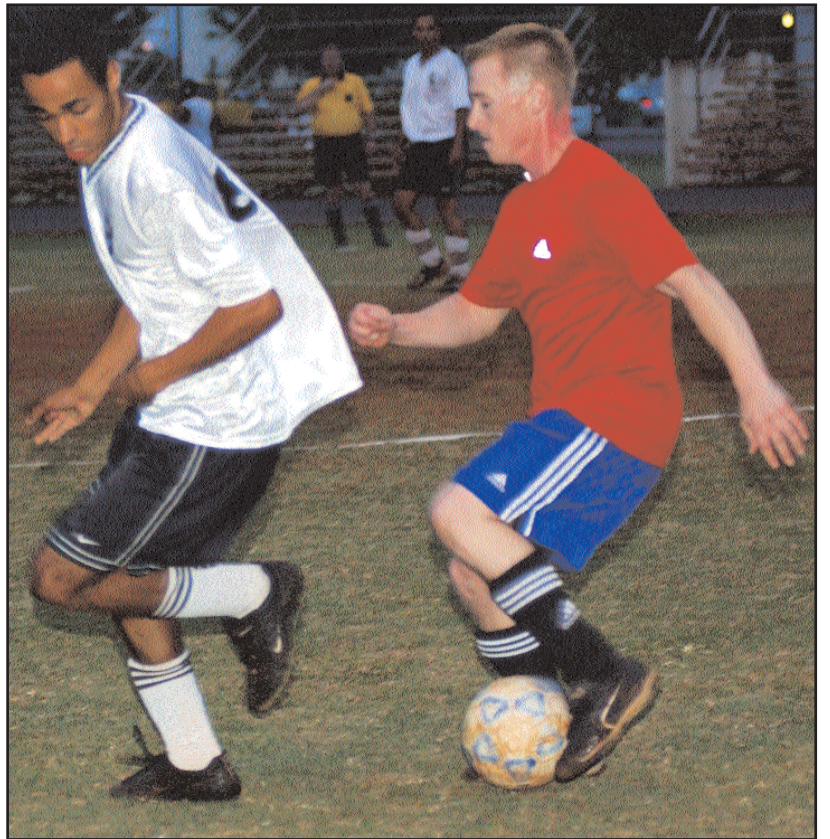
team striker Jorge Monteiro kept the ball on the ground and to himself as he weaved through the communicators' defense, notching an unassisted goal to put CES up 1-0 four minutes in.

It was a lead that would stand until halftime, with most of the action concentrated in the middle half of the field.

The second half brought a change in both the wind direction and 15th CS fortunes. With the gusts at his back, communications' striker Tim Orchard was able to take scoring chances from a longer distance, but 15th CES keeper Joaquin Salazar denied every effort.

The game remained a one-goal division until the last two minutes when teammates Monteiro and Rhibano Dokong, fellow Nigerians who have a collective 30 years of 'football' experience, took advantage of a winded CS defense to perform some spectacular open-field dribbling and ball control before eventually assisting each other on two late goals to seal the communicators' fate.

"I think the key to our victory is our ability to stick together as a team, to overcome the weather and our opponent," Monteiro said. "And of course the main thing was we scored when we had our opportunities."



Jorge Monteiro (left), 15th Civil Engineer Squadron, races back to defend Daniel Whaley, 15th Communications Squadron.

*Photos by Mike Dey*



Above: Monteiro splits two 15th CS defenders driving to his first goal of the game. Right: Ryan Hardwick, 15th CS, clears the ball over Joshua Biggers, 15th CES.

Below: Tim Orchard (right), 15th CS, pushes the ball past Biggers.

